

Maintenance Change No. 254-1

MAINTENANCE CHANGE SHEET

PLAN NAME: Record of Decision and Approved Rawlins Resource Management Plan

AREA: Rawlins Field Office

LOCATION OF CHANGE

Page No. 2-54	Paragraph No. 14	(Column n/a)	Line No. 1-2
Page No. 2-55	Paragraph No. 1	(Column n/a)	Line No. 1-3

CHANGE

Insert: This sentence at the end of line 2 on page 2-54, paragraph 14 and at the end of line 3 on page 2-55, paragraph 1:

WYOMING POCKET GOPHER HABITAT PROTECTION MEASURES

Where active pocket gopher mounds are identified, the project will be moved 75 meters from the identified pocket gopher mounds to reduce impacts, when possible.

In cases when the project proponent for a surface disturbing activity cannot avoid active pocket gopher mounds by 75 meters, a pre-construction classification survey (via live capture) must be completed within 75 meters of the proposed project to identify the associated pocket gopher to the species level. The surveys must be completed by a BLM, or BLM-approved, wildlife biologist. The current survey protocol is available from the BLM Rawlins Field Office. If results conclude that the associated species is a Northern pocket gopher, the proposed surface disturbance may proceed without any mitigation. If results conclude that the associated species is a Wyoming pocket gopher, or the classification survey fails to conclusively identify the associated pocket gopher, the following protection measures will apply:

- (1) The project will be moved 75 meters from the identified Wyoming pocket gopher habitat; **OR**
- (2) If applicable, a barrier will be placed around active Wyoming pocket gopher mounds in areas identified by the BLM wildlife biologist, between the Wyoming pocket gopher habitat and the project area, prior to any ground disturbing activities, to reduce disturbance to Wyoming pocket gophers during project construction. The barriers will remain in place through project construction. In addition, monitoring will be required by a BLM, or BLM-approved, wildlife biologist for two years post-construction to identify any Wyoming pocket gopher changes in habitat use and to determine if development impacted the local Wyoming pocket gopher population. A report will be submitted to the BLM within 180-days after the post-construction monitoring has been completed.

REASON

This change incorporates IM No. WY-2010-027 (April 5, 2010) Subject: Update

of the Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming Sensitive Species List-2010 (This IM supercedes IB WY-2003-001) and Attachment 2: BLM Wyoming Sensitive Species Policy and List. Using criteria set forth in Manual 6840, BLM Wyoming is designating the Wyoming pocket gopher (*Thomomys clusius*) as a Sensitive Species: Wyoming Pocket Gopher is appropriate for inclusion under criterion number 1b. Wyoming pocket gopher occurs in geographically restricted and specialized areas that are threatened by human activities, and this species is thereby designated as Sensitive in Wyoming.

SIGNATURE AS APPROPRIATE

Program Leader Mary J. Read Date 1/21/2015

Field Office Steve A. Hum Date 21/Jan. 2015
Planning and Environmental Coordinator

Field Manager E. Carpenter Date 1/21/15